

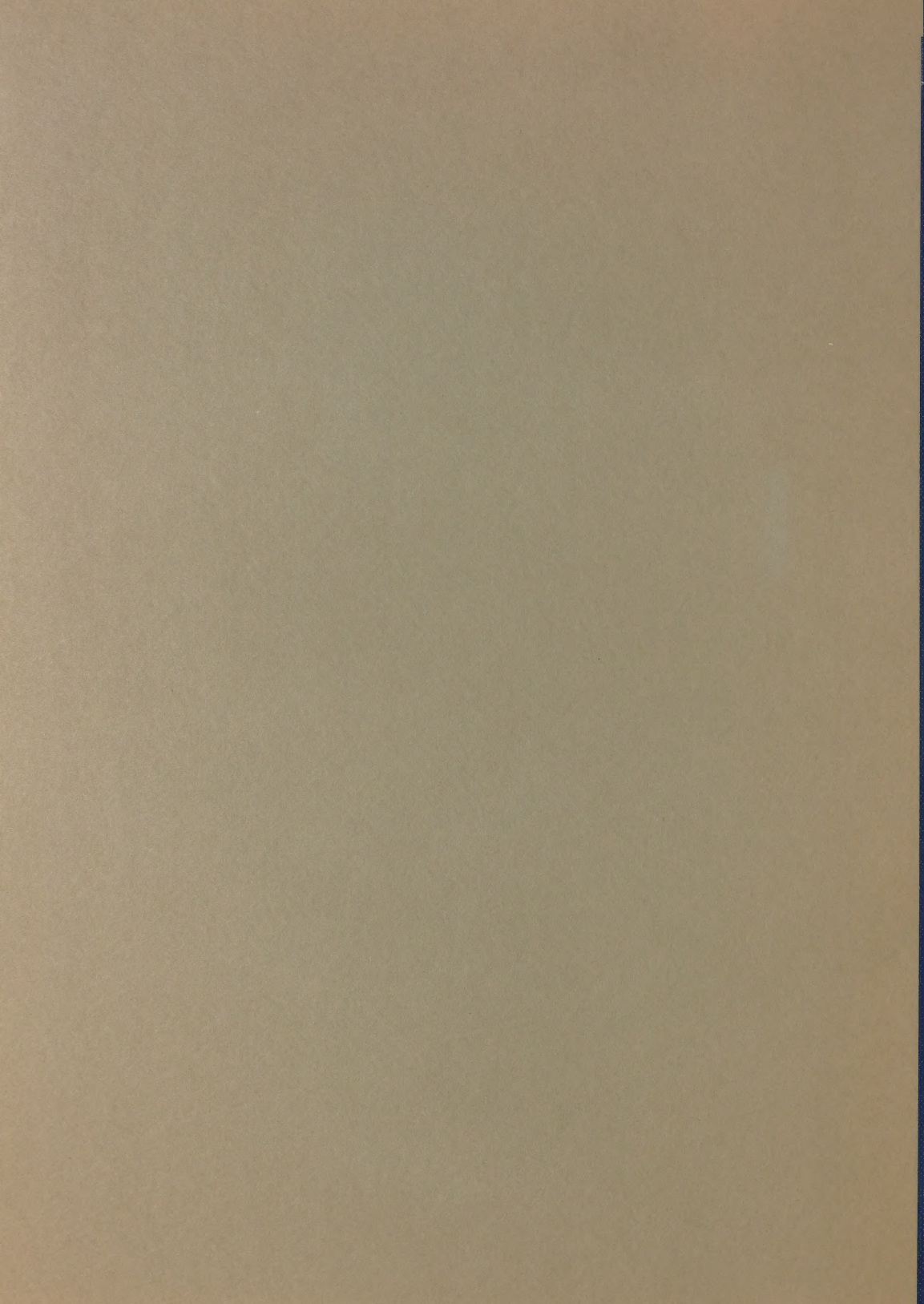
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Canada. Women's Bureau  
Opportunities for  
continuing education, II

Bulletin No. 14





# Women's Bureau Bulletin

Number 127

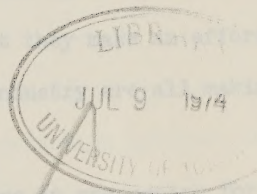
March 1963

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION


More than ever before in history, people are aware of the need for continuing education - of keeping their minds alive to the world around them. The fact that so much change occurs both in the work environment and in their social surroundings makes it imperative that they be kept informed. Educational systems, government and industry are all making contributions to the stream of available information.

Administrators, counselors and teachers in the field of continuing education have found that incentives behind the urge for education can be classified as follows: -

- desire for personal satisfaction in the realization of one's potential
- desire for personal or family security in achieving a higher status of employment
- desire to overcome life's difficulties by finding new paths of interest to explore
- desire to achieve mental health through the exercise of one's faculties and to broaden one's work
- desire to pursue knowledge for cultural benefits.



This is intended as a supplement to information contained in Bureau's Bureau Bulletin Number 12, July 1961.



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# Women's Bureau Bulletin

Department  
of  
Labour

Number XIV

March 1965

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION-II\*

Today, more than ever before in history, people are aware of the need for continuing education - of keeping their minds alive to the world around them. The fast pace at which changes occur both in the work environment and in their social surroundings makes it imperative that they make an effort to be informed. Educational systems, government and industry are all making contributions to the stream of available information.

Administrators, counsellors and teachers in one centre for Continuing Education have found that incentives behind the urge for education may be classified as follows: -

- . desire for personal satisfaction in the realization of one's potential
- . desire for personal or family security in achieving a higher status of employment
- . desire to sublimate life's difficulties by finding new paths of interest to explore
- . desire to achieve mental health through the exercise of one's faculties and to broaden one's work
- . desire to pursue knowledge for cultural benefits.

\* This is intended as a supplement to information contained in Women's Bureau Bulletin Number IX, July 1963.

March 1966

Number XIV

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION-II\*

Today, more than ever before in history, people are aware of the need for continuing education - of keeping their minds alive to the world around them. The fast pace at which changes occur both in the work environment and in their social surroundings makes it imperative that they make an effort to be informed. Educational systems, government and industry are all making contributions to the stream of available information.

Administrators, community and business leaders in one centre for continuing education have found that incentive for education may be classified as follows:

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- . desire for personal or family security in achieving a higher status of employment
- . desire to subliminate life's difficulties by finding new paths of interest to explore
- . desire to achieve mental health through the exercise of one's faculties and to broaden one's work
- . desire to pursue knowledge for cultural benefits.

\* This is intended as a supplement to information contained in Women's Bureau Bulletin Number IX, July 1963.



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Women, in increasing numbers, are taking advantage of available courses. Full-time enrollment of women in vocational courses under the Federal-Provincial agreements for the six-month period April 1 to October 31 1964 more than doubled the enrollment for the same period in 1963. Four-year figures indicate this increase quite dramatically:

1960-61	1,932
1961-62	5,101
1962-63	9,106
1963-64	17,324

The term "education", in the context of this bulletin is used in the broadest sense of an upgrading process. It includes academic, vocational and social subjects, for example: the study of mathematics, training as a sewing machine operator, or the study of various countries and their customs. Facilities for this adult, or continuing, education may be found throughout Canada in: technical and commercial schools, university extension courses, museums, art galleries, community centres, libraries, church halls, and voluntary organizations. Various methods are used: classroom instruction, demonstration, forums, lectures, round tables, study groups, correspondence courses, radio and visual aids such as slide projections, films, closed circuit television, and television programs.

University courses are offered in the evening in a variety of subjects that may be credited towards a university degree. At least 17 universities have Extension Departments. Some of these Departments provide service over a wide area, sending out speakers, slides and books; others are limited to the community where the university is located, except for correspondence courses.

Correspondence courses for university credit may be undertaken through ten Canadian universities in, at least, 24 subjects. Technical and vocational correspondence courses are offered by provincial departments of education.





Vocational courses are mushrooming with many high schools opening their doors to evening classes in everything from business English to computer techniques. And attendance figures continue to rise.

Hobbies may be considered part of a continuing education. Aside from classes of instruction in subjects usually recognized as hobby or recreational activities for women, shop subjects such as auto mechanics or woodworking may be opened to them through some night school programs offered in technical high schools.

Brief descriptions of some of the most recent developments in continuing education follow. This will be a sampling of what is available; it does not pretend to cover the entire field.

The King Edward Continuing Education Centre, operated by the Vancouver Board of School Trustees, is a day and evening school for adults that offers high school completion, senior matriculation, and vocational preparatory programs. Students may sign up for classes in the regular day schedule, late afternoons, evenings or Saturday mornings. The Centre has counsellors who are experienced in assisting adults, especially those who have been out of school for some time. Each registering student must have a counselling interview, although the final choice of courses rests with the student.

Enrollment in the day school increased from 900 in 1962, when the Centre began operation, to 1600 in 1964. Students are from all walks of life and many are married; one in four is a woman. Although the 18 to 21 age group is the largest, ages range up to 50 years and over. The students quickly lose any sensitivity to age as they become absorbed in their class studies.

Aside from academic studies, the School Board may consider the fields of cultural arts, public services, journalism and public relations, and business





administration for possible courses in the future. It is interested in a community college expansion that will fulfill the educational needs of the area and train individuals for many types of employment.

A few descriptions of women students at the King Edward Centre are listed below: -

- Mrs. K - housewife - married to a professional man - always conscious of her inadequate education - feeling that she has the ability to learn and anxious to prove it.
- Miss A - a long history of mental illness - enjoys a limited programme of studies and the contact with students and teachers in a friendly atmosphere.
- Miss L - missionary from South America - a natural and experienced teacher with no professional status - financed by her diocese for two years of studies to continue a teaching career
- Mrs. R - married to a mentally unstable person who will not seek help - takes a few classes yearly for self-enrichment and to improve her knowledge for helping her children.
- Mrs. E - has three children - her husband is suffering from an incurable disease - is preparing herself for a career in social work.
- Miss C - from England - fine background of music - on a very limited budget is preparing herself to teach music.

At the University of Alberta "mature men and women between the ages of 30 and 50 who wish to obtain certification to teach in either the elementary or secondary schools" of the province may do so. The Faculty of Education of the University has set up a two-year program to qualify adults who have high school matriculation standing.

Of the original 25 persons accepted for this training, 20 were women. Students were given an extensive course in Freshman English consisting of the regular English course with an extra hour per day devoted to writing and related subjects. The class proved to be an excellent one; the students were earnest, dedicated people.





The University reports that these students are now permitted to continue with the program as regular students, but with this difference: they are allowed to take any load that their circumstances permit. For example, although a full year's work is five courses, they can elect to take one or more courses up to five.

The University's Department of Extension offers special courses under the title of "Continuing Education for Women". These include: Canadian History, English Literature, Oral French, and Philosophy. There is a baby-sitting service on campus.

The Calgary School Board adult evening classes include: general interest, parent education, vocational, junior and senior academic high school, business training, home study, and correspondence-instructional programmes. A course consultant is available.

Adults, who wish to continue their education, are advised by the Board to use the Adult Counselling and Testing Services. Counselling services are free and are arranged to assist adults:

- in evaluating their formal educational standing
- in selecting proper courses and directing study for specific careers or further education.

The cost of testing services is \$10.00. Their purpose is to assist adults:

- in determining their grade level in various subjects
- in determining reading, verbal, numerical and abstract abilities
- in determining aptitudes and interests.

Continuing education for teachers is another of the Board's projects. This In-Service Training Program is intended to "assist teachers to understand better and to deal more effectively with the various classroom problems facing





them from day-to-day." Subjects include: art, remedial reading, music, social studies, physical education, arithmetic, French, counselling, statistics, supervision and administration, data processing, and audio-visual aids. Courses consist of 30 hours of class sessions organized on the basis of one evening session weekly for 15 weeks.

The Regina Collegiate Institute Board has had an Adult Education Program since 1960. Courses offered cover: art, homemaking, business, trade and industrial, citizenship, and high school completion.

An experimental two-year nursing course was completed in 1964 when 16 girls were graduated from the Regina Grey Nuns Hospital and obtained their diplomas as registered nurses. Hospital officials hope that the shortened course will become standard practice. In the usual three-year course, student nurses spend 25 months on ward duty; in the two-year course, they combine eight hours per week ward duty with classes during the two-year period.

An evening program for culturally deprived adults has been established by the Manitoba School Board in co-operation with the Winnipeg Welfare Department. The group is being taught mathematics and reading. The students are of approximately grade three educational level. Even the very elementary knowledge attained has enabled some of them to obtain work that might otherwise have been denied them.

Mothers and daughters from deprived and disoriented families may attend special evening classes offered by the Winnipeg School Board in basic homemaking, budgeting, and hairstyling.

The Toronto area abounds in opportunities for adult education. A counselling centre has been set up in the heart of Toronto as a service to both





employed and unemployed persons interested in occupational counselling and further training. National Employment Service representatives are available for consultation. The University of Toronto and York University, in co-operation with local University Women's Clubs, have located several classes in suburban areas where the students live. Three afternoon courses, especially for women, at the University of Toronto are: The Law and Woman; Shaw - Thinker and Playwright; and a course on Modern India and its Relation in our World.

The Universities offer courses leading to B.A. degrees, with the University of Toronto also providing courses for business and industry as well as tutorials for persons not seeking a degree. Ryerson Polytechnical Institute has a vast array of courses in arts and crafts; the Toronto Board of Education teaches technical, commercial and academic subjects in evening classes in public schools. Altogether, there are more than five hundred courses for adults available in Toronto.

The Quo Vadis School of Nursing in Toronto is an example of training for mature women (30 to 50 years) in a specific profession. In the field of nursing, it stands unique in its admission age. Further, it is one of only two independent schools conducting two-year programs for the education of nurses in Ontario. The usual program is of three-year duration.

Registration, at present, is limited to 35 students per year and applications far exceed available space. All candidates must have an Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma with the science option, or its equivalent. Graduates will be eligible to write the examination set for R.N.'s by the College of Nurses of Ontario.

The National Film Board is producing a film about this pioneering project in training women of 30 to 50 years for the nursing profession. It



depicts every-day occurrences in the life of the students and the staff, and indicates how adjustments were made, particularly in re-establishing study habits. Information on how to obtain the film may be obtained from the National Film Board, Operational Headquarters, P.O. Box 6100, Montreal 3; or from a local Film Library.

McMaster University and the University of Waterloo have both set up special courses for women. At McMaster, one day per week from 1:45 to 3:15 has been designated for courses of general interest for women. These courses will include: the French Novel, Understanding Philosophy, and Political Traditions of the West. A nursery for pre-schoolers is provided at the University. At Waterloo, evening courses for women have been decided upon following a survey of more than 3,000 women in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. These courses include: contemporary prose and poetry, money matters, current affairs, mathematics for parents, history of religion, and conservation and planning. There are no educational prerequisites.

The Ottawa Collegiate Institute Board realizes the importance of planning and direction in this area. In 1964, the Board appointed a Director of Adult Education: to study educational and training needs in the field of adult education, to recommend and implement any desirable additions to the array of courses presently available through the night school program, and to be generally responsible for adult education, including vocational training, at the high school level.

In Quebec, more than 5,000 adults registered this year in 200 classes throughout the lower St. Lawrence and Gaspé regions. The program is intended to give students instruction on a full-time basis for a period of 16 weeks which will enable them to obtain department of education diplomas for either the





seventh or ninth years of school. These diplomas, in turn, will allow many workers to take jobs that were available but denied to them because of insufficient education.

The students were not "unemployed". Many of them are farmers and fishermen; the average age is from 35 to 45 years. This training is part of an over-all plan for redevelopment of the area of the Eastern Quebec Planning Bureau, an organization working under the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act.

Sir George Williams University, although it has a day enrollment, was designed from its outset to meet the needs of evening students. Many opportunities for further education leading to a degree are offered through its evening classes - the building program cannot keep pace with the ever-increasing enrollment. The Thomas More Institute of Adult Education, also in Montreal, has been in this field for more than seventeen years. Over 50% of the students are interested in the humanities and may study for a B.A. The Institute, in addition, provides evening programs of comprehensive study for people with one or two degrees to enable them to study one area in depth. This arrangement appears to be unique in Canada.

In-service training has been arranged for Unemployment Insurance Commission and National Employment Service personnel in co-operation with the University of Montreal. Weekly evening courses include: manpower complexities, economic surges, mobility of the labour force, the gross national product and labour legislation. Half the \$60 course fee will be refunded by the Treasury Board on successful completion of the course.

In Nova Scotia, a significant development has been the increase in the number of classes in academic subjects for adults operated by school boards in





co-operation with the Adult Education Division of the Department of Education. The subjects studied, for the most part, are those at the high school level of the regular school curriculum. The remainder deal with the three R's and with English and Citizenship for New Canadians.

Newfoundland opened four new centres for adult education during the 1962-63 academic year: Marystown, Grand Bank, Port aux Basques and Codroy Valley.

#### Federal-Provincial Co-operation in Training and Education

The federal government has entered into agreements with the provinces for sharing capital and operating expenditures in various training and educational programs. Some programs of particular interest in continuing education are included under Program 4 - Training in Co-operation with Industry, and Program 5 - Training for the Unemployed.

Under Program 4, courses offered through the Small Business Management Training Division of the Technical and Vocational Training Branch, Department of Labour, Ottawa, are gaining in popularity. These courses are designed to help the small business owner acquire the management skills necessary to successful operation of a business that may be completely foreign to his specialized knowledge of the trade or industry.

In many instances, a wife will be involved in looking after the office of a business and could profit from such courses. An ideal arrangement, under such circumstances, is to have both husband and wife follow the course. In one case at least, husband, wife and bookkeeper registered for this training. Roughly 15-20% of all registrants are women.



The usual arrangements are for a 20 hour course, of 2 hour sessions, one night per week. The fees vary from \$15 to \$25 approximately. There is no homework, nor examinations; the Department of Education of the province usually gives a certificate of attendance to those persons who have had an 80% attendance record.

The Quetico Conference and Training Centre in Ontario, 120 miles west of Port Arthur, provides a training course for persons wishing to receive skill training in tourist resort services including: dining room services, supervision of children, cashiering and related duties, personal development and basic English.

Another course is offered in souvenir craft manufacturing. It concentrates on the manufacture of craft items which can be marketed as souvenirs and includes: ceramics, weaving, graphics, business practice, marketing and personal development.

Further information on the Quetico courses may be obtained by writing the Quetico Centre, Box 1,000, Atikokan, Ontario.

Program 5 aims at enabling unemployed persons, through vocational courses to adapt more readily to the needs of the labour market. The increasing enrollment in these courses is evidence of the urgency of training and educating persons at all levels.

Enrolment of women in program 5 for the six-month period from April 1 to October 31, 1964 increased to more than 14,551\* from 6,127 for the same period in 1963. This is an increase of 137% and represents 35% of the total enrolment. Some courses in which the number of women exceeded that of men in 1964 were:

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\* The 1964 figures for three provinces are incomplete.





<u>Course</u>	<u>Percentage of total</u>
Nursing aides and assistants*	99
Power sewing machine operators	95
Hairdressing and beauty culture	92
Business practice	79
Dressmaking and tailoring	71
Waiter-waitress training	70
Business machine operation	69
Handicrafts	64

Thirteen women of a total of 20 were enrolled in furrier courses in Quebec; in Ontario, 16 women of a total of 26 were in interior decorating; and the only enrollees in teacher training were 7 women in New Brunswick.

Although Basic Training for Skill Development had the largest numbers enrolled, only 4,167 or 26% of the total 16,140 were women. This type of training was instituted to help many who lacked the academic or skill requirements, such as English, mathematics and science, necessary for success in regular training courses.

The following tables indicate enrollment of women by region:-

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\* Of a total of 1,461, only 11 men were enrolled - these were all in British Columbia.





Full-time Female Enrollment in Vocational Courses under Program 5  
of the Federal-Provincial Agreements

<u>Province</u>	<u>1963-64</u>	<u>1962-63</u>	<u>1961-62</u>	<u>1960-61</u>
Newfoundland	120	6	10	6
Prince Edward Island	62	31	-	-
Nova Scotia	205	84	120	106
New Brunswick	985	439	315	91
Quebec	1,896	882	1,062	308
Ontario	9,833	5,202	1,749	62
Manitoba	713	433	369	274
Saskatchewan	700	329	248	244
Alberta	1,149	628	524	394
British Columbia	1,644	1,049	704	447
Yukon	30	-	-	-
Northwest Territories	14	23	-	-
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Total	17,324	9,106	5,101	1,932

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Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Education Division for  
Technical and Vocational Training Branch, Department  
of Labour, Ottawa.



Full-time Female Enrollment in Vocational Courses under Program 5  
of the Federal-Provincial Agreements  
April 1 to October 31

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<u>Province</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Newfoundland	72*	81
Prince Edward Island	10	27
Nova Scotia	158	68
New Brunswick	6	141
Quebec	563*	605
Ontario	10,958	3,673
Manitoba	440	182
Saskatchewan	52**	183
Alberta	784	382
British Columbia	1,464	754
Yukon	41	27
Northwest Territories	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	14,551	6,127

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\* To September 30 only

\*\* to August 31 only.

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Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Education Division for  
Technical and Vocational Training Branch, Department  
of Labour, Ottawa.





## What Does the Future Hold?

The Canadian Federation of University Women is conducting a survey of its membership of 11,000 with a view to discovering what this group of women want in the field of continuing education. The survey is a result of a convention in Winnipeg in 1964 which noted a shortage of qualified personnel in Canada, and stated that many university women were not using their education. Results of the questionnaire should be very helpful to educators.

The Ontario Department of Education plans on building a \$4,000,000 adult retraining centre in the Metropolitan Toronto region in 1966. Full-time and evening courses as well as extension courses of a social and recreational nature will be offered.

McMaster's nursery for pre-schoolers of mothers who are taking courses offers bright hope as a possible forerunner of a trend which will enable married women with young children to improve their knowledge and prepare themselves to make a contribution to the world of work should they so wish.

The McGill Alumnae Society hopes to institute a program patterned after the Radcliffe Institute of Independent Study in Boston. If this project comes to fruition, it will mean that married women between the ages of 25 and 69 will be able to undertake scholarly or creative work with some financial aid toward household help. The Montreal Protestant School Board has plans for a survey of adult education needs in the area under its jurisdiction.

A Center for Continuing Education is to be established at Elliot Lake under the federal-provincial Technical and Vocational Training Agreement. The Center will provide a wide range of programs for adults including courses in the fine and performing arts, in management, in selected technologies and in



labour education. It will also provide conference facilities for public affairs, business, religious, union, government and other groups wishing to organize residential seminars.

Under Program 4, a course in retail selling is now being developed for this Fall. It is expected that it will be of the usual 10 week duration and will be available for sponsorship by organizations, associations, or other interested bodies.

The appointment of Directors and Course Consultants in adult, or continuing, education has also begun. This movement will, doubtless, spread as centres of education realize the enormity of the task which lies in the years ahead. To the individual, this means that a willing ear is available for course suggestions and for advice.





For Further Information

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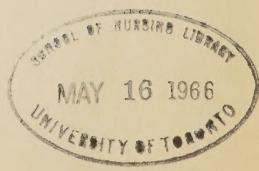
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